

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL RELATIONS, ENERGY, AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Call to Order: Chairman Art Noonan, on January 26, 2009 at 3:07 P.M., in Room 172 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Art Noonan, Chairman (D)
Rep. Robyn Driscoll, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Harry Klock, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Shannon Augare (D)
Rep. Carlie Boland (D)
Rep. Mike Jopek (D)
Rep. Gary MacLaren (R)
Rep. Jesse O'Hara (R)
Rep. Mike Phillips (D)
Rep. Keith Regier (R)
Rep. Scott Reichner (R)
Rep. Brady Wiseman (D)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: Rep. Llew Jones (R)
Rep. Wayne Stahl (R)

Staff Present: Bryce Bennett, Committee Secretary
Todd Everts, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 287, HB 294,

Executive Action: HB 98

HEARING ON HB 287

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:30 Rep. Robyn Driscoll (D), HD 51, opened the hearing on
HB 287, Authorize utility tree trimming on right-of-way
and easements.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:03:01 John Fitzpatrick, Northwestern Energy

[EXHIBIT](#)(feh18a01)

00:11:43 Doug Hardy, Montana Electric Cooperatives

Opponents' Testimony:

00:12:43 Dave Wood, self

00:13:22 Rep. Stahl arrived.

Informational Testimony: none.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:15:37 Rep. Phillips
00:16:10 Rep. Driscoll
00:16:22 Rep. Phillips
00:16:36 Mr. Fitzpatrick
00:17:21 Rep. Regier
00:17:45 Mr. Fitzpatrick
00:18:03 Rep. Regier
00:18:14 Mr. Fitzpatrick
00:19:03 Rep. Augare
00:19:16 Mr. Fitzpatrick
00:20:02 Rep. Augare
00:20:24 Mr. Fitzpatrick
00:21:12 Rep. Phillips
00:21:29 Mr. Fitzpatrick
00:21:50 Rep. Wiseman
00:22:36 Mr. Fitzpatrick
00:23:52 Rep. Wiseman
00:24:15 Mr. Fitzpatrick
00:24:49 Rep. Wiseman
00:25:16 Mr. Fitzpatrick

Closing by Sponsor:

00:26:02 Rep. Driscoll

HEARING ON HB 294

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:26:47 Rep. Gary MacLaren (R), HD 89, opened the hearing on HB 294, Revise natural gas laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:31:40 Mr. Fitzpatrick

EXHIBIT (feh18a02)

00:40:32 Greg Jergeson, Chairman, Montana Public Service Commission

EXHIBIT (feh18a03)

00:44:44 Mike Beleskey, Office of the Governor

00:45:21 Dennis Lopach, REC Silicon

Opponents' Testimony:

00:46:51 Pat Montalban, Northern Montana Oil & Gas Association

Informational Testimony:

00:54:09 John Alke, Montana-Dakota Utilities Company

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:55:36 Rep. Wiseman

00:56:12 Mr. Jergeson

00:57:13 Rep. Wiseman

00:57:51 Mr. Jergeson

00:58:34 Rep. Wiseman

00:59:12 Mr. Jergeson

00:59:58 Rep. Wiseman

01:00:31 Mr. Fitzpatrick

Closing by Sponsor:

01:02:15 Rep. MacLaren

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 98

01:04:00 **Motion:** Rep. Driscoll moved that **HB 98 DO PASS.**

Discussion: none.

01:04:22 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 4:13 P.M.

Bryce Bennett, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT ([feh18aad.pdf](#))